

percent of their earnings; 50 percent of the money earned by the people in my rural district goes to pay for those who will not work. It goes to dumbed-down schools, and it feeds Uncle Sam's fat bureaucrats.

When the largest expense people in my district pay is taxes—and not food, shelter, medical care, and college for their children—that is an atrocity.

Mr. Speaker, let us finally do something right for working people. Let us cut taxes now.

#### SSI AND TRAINING CUTS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I heard my Republican colleague, but my name is SHEILA, and I want to be here to represent what is best for the working man and woman in America, and not to support billionaire tax loopholes. The tax-cut package being offered by the leadership on the other side certainly does not respond to them. But aside from the fact that their plan ignores deficit reduction, the fact remains that their plan still looks to cut taxes for America's upper-income brackets while imposing greater burdens on working- and middle-class families.

Now, to pay for more billionaire-friendly tax breaks, the other side wants to cut \$13 billion from student loan programs—student loans that make college dreams possible for millions of American students and their working- and middle-class parents.

Mr. Speaker, my family worked hard to capture a part of the American dream. They also worked hard to give their children a chance to succeed. Yet, if there were not Government-backed student loans, I would not have been able to go to college or get a graduate education.

I would like to think my education was a good investment for America. I have paid back my loans with interest, so I cannot understand why the other side seems bent on slashing the loan program now, just as America needs well-educated citizens and workers more than ever. But yet Rupert Murdoch can walk these Halls undercover, and the Republicans will give our tax dollars to his deal alone. I do not understand it, Mr. Speaker.

#### THE REPUBLICAN TAX CUTS ARE FOR EVERYONE

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, the Republican tax fairness and deficit reduction proposal cuts taxes for everyone; individuals, families, and senior citizens. Most importantly, the proposal provides relief for working families. Since 1988, the working family has had their median income plunge approximately

\$2,500 while receiving a 2.5-percent increase in taxes. Over 75 percent of our tax relief proposal will focus on restoring fairness to the middle class. The remaining 25 percent will go directly to deficit reduction. The cuts are designed to lend a helping hand to the middle-class working family, the \$500 per child family tax credit, the tax credit for adoption expenses, and the tax credit for small businesses.

Republicans are committed to reducing the burden of government on the working families.

#### STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, many young people in America have made a choice, a choice to get an education, and to get a job and to pursue a career. They made the right choice that will give them a chance. The Republican Party, however, wants to take that chance from them. They want to take that choice.

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They plan to abolish and restructure four major loans and grant programs that provide aid to college students, threatening to force those students into a direction that they may not have chosen.

Last year millions of students held jobs on the work-study, got low interest rates, and did not have the burden of paying interest while they were studying, and they received grants. They will not have the opportunity next year.

In total, over the next 5 years \$13 billion will be taken away from college loans and grant programs. For what? To give the wealthiest Americans a tax break.

The closer we look at the Republican tax plan, it certainly is not fair. It is grotesque. They call these cuts in loans a savings. I call it a tragedy for America's future.

#### REPUBLICAN TAX REFORM BENEFICIAL TO SENIOR CITIZENS

(Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, while H.R. 1215, the Republican tax program, helps working families, promotes economic growth, and creates jobs, it also helps millions of working senior citizens.

Current law imposes harsh penalties on senior citizens, particularly those who continue to work beyond the age of 65.

Today working seniors face higher, more punishing tax rates than millionaires in our tax system. Currently seniors who work after age 65 lose \$1 in Social Security benefits for every \$3 they earn above \$11,280.

These are not rich people. The Social Security earnings limitation has pushed many older Americans out of the work force and slowed economic growth. H.R. 1215 increases the earnings limitation by almost \$19,000 to \$30,000, thereby eliminating the bias against older Americans who want to remain attached to the work force and it does so without increasing the deficit.

#### LAST-MINUTE CHANGE IN TAX LEGISLATION TERMED "BUSINESS AS USUAL"

(Mr. WARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I was just elected in 1994. I am a freshman, and I was in the Kentucky Legislature for 5 years before that. And, Mr. Speaker, we had a rule in the Kentucky Legislature, a hard-and-fast rule, that if language was changed in a bill when it went to conference, if language was different from the way we passed it when it came back from conference, we were told it was subject to what we call here a point of order. If we were not told what was in that change on the floor, in front of the entire body, in front of the public, in front of the people, it could not be considered.

What we have just seen, Mr. Speaker, is a change in a bill, a good bill, to provide self-employed people the opportunity to deduct the cost of their health care insurance, a bill we are all for, changed to help one person.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that is business as usual, and that is not why the voters changed what was going on up here.

#### THE VOTE TOMORROW

(Mr. HASTERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow when we take up H.R. 1215, the Tax Fairness and Deficit Reduction Act of 1995, I urge my colleagues to ponder one question: Do they support working senior citizens in this country, or do they support taxing our seniors out of the work force?

If Members support our senior citizens, they will support the tax bill. A vote against the tax bill is a vote against senior citizens who want to work, who want to be productive.

Let me tell the Members why. This tax bill does two things that will help older Americans. First, it repeals President Clinton's Social Security tax that he passed over Republican objections last year; and, second, it increases the earnings test so that more seniors will be able to work without getting taxed at a rate twice the amount that millionaires have to pay.

Mr. Speaker, the choice tomorrow is simple. Either they support our seniors or they do not. I urge my colleagues on